Discussion Problems
Step 6: Compare Numbers

Teaching note: Inequality symbols are included in this step as they were introduced in Block 1 Step 10. These can be used as a visual aid to improve fluency as children continue comparing numbers and amounts.

National Curriculum Objectives:

Mathematics Year 1: (1N2c) Read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words
This resource also covers the following objective from Year 2:
Mathematics Year 2: (2N2b) Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use <, > and = signs

About this resource:

As this resource is aimed at Year 1, we recommend that an adult reads the problem to children who cannot yet access it for themselves.

This resource has been designed for pupils who understand the concepts within this step. It provides pupils with more opportunities to enhance their reasoning and problem solving skills through more challenging problems. Pupils can work in pairs or small groups to discuss with each other about how best to tackle the problem, as there is often more than one answer or more than one way to work through the problem.

There may be various answers for each problem. Where this is the case, we have provided one example answer to guide discussion.

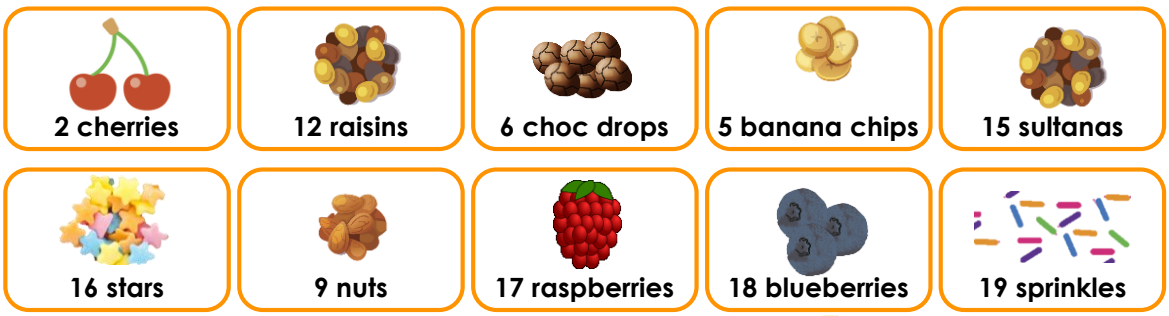
We recommend self or peer marking using the answer page provided to promote discussion and self-correction.

More Year 1 Place Value resources.

Did you like this resource? Don't forget to review it on our website.

Compare Numbers

1. Kim has baked one small cake and one big cake. She wants to put some toppings on them. The small cake must have fewer toppings than the big cake. She can only choose one type of topping per cake.



Investigate different combinations of toppings on the cakes.

DP

2. Use these cards and symbols to make as many correct number sentences as you can.

For example: 20 > 12

< > =

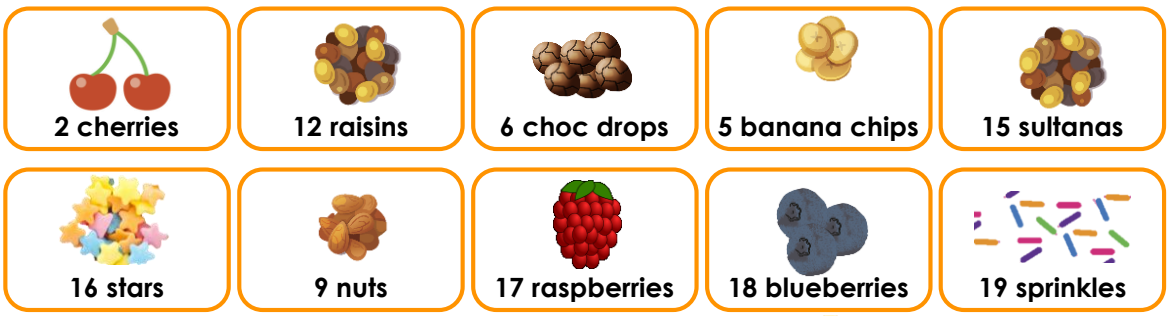
12 20 5 15 8 3

One ten and nine ones | One ten and five ones | eleven | two | three | sixteen

DP

Compare Numbers

1. Kim has baked one small cake and one big cake. She wants to put some toppings on them. The small cake must have fewer toppings than the big cake. She can only choose one type of topping per cake.



Investigate different combinations of toppings on the cakes.

Various answers, for example:
small cake: 9 nuts, big cake: 19 sprinkles;
small cake: 5 banana chips; big cake: 17 raspberries

DP

2. Use these cards and symbols to make as many correct number sentences as you can.

For example: 20 > 12

< > =

12 20 5 15 8 3

One ten and nine ones | One ten and five ones | eleven | two | three | sixteen

Various answers, for example: 15 = One ten and five ones

DP